Illegal Drug Use

The Youth Risk Behavior Survey includes questions on use of marijuana, cocaine, inhalants, heroin, methamphetamine, steroids, and injected drugs, as well as marijuana use and drug acquisition on school property.

Highlights

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There was an increase use of all types of illegal drugs among Lancaster County teens. The YRBSS data in 2001 indicated that the most common illicit drug ever used by teens was marijuana (45%), followed by inhalant (12.2%), methamphetamine (8%) and cocaine (7.8%).

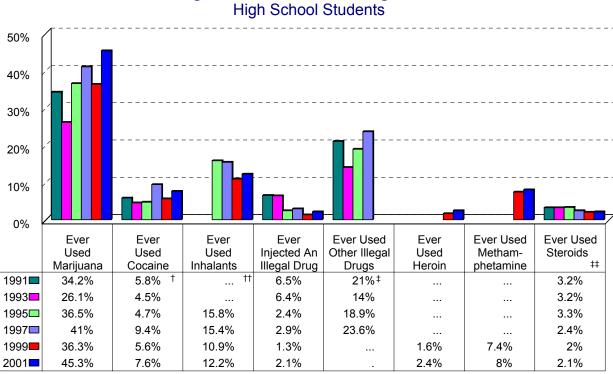


Figure 1: Lifetime Drug Use*

Nearly one-forth (24.7%) of survey respondents reported that they used marijuana during the past 30 days prior to the survey while only 3.3% reported using cocaine (Figure 2).

^{† &}quot;any form of cocaine including powder, crack or freebase"

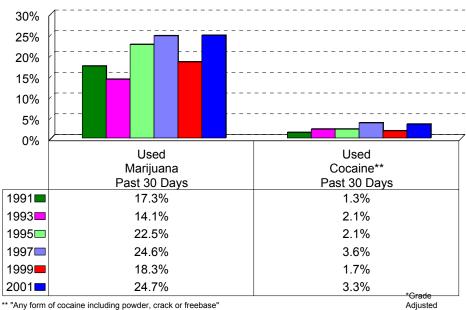
^{**}T* "sniffed glue, breathed the contents of aerosol spray cans, or inhaled paints or sprays"

[‡] "LSD, PCP, ecstasy, mushrooms, speed, ice, or heroin"

^{# &}quot;steroid pills or shots without a doctor's prescription"

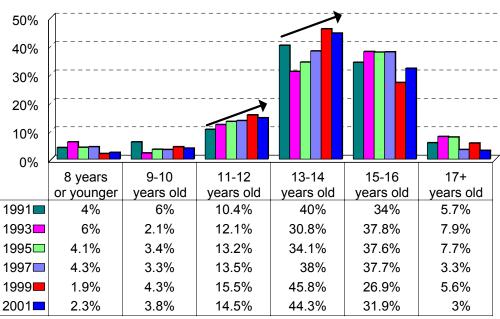
^{*} Grade Adjusted

Figure 2: Current Drug Use (Past 30 Days)* High School Students



In 2001, those who reported marijuana use, 44.3% reported that they first used it at 13-14 years of age and 31.9% reported using at 15-16 years of age.

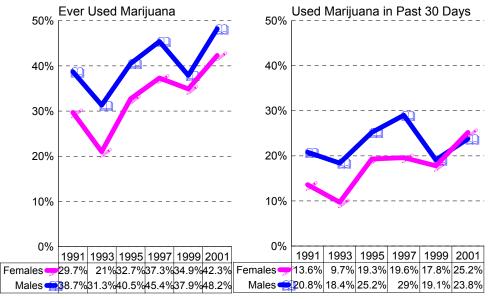
Figure 3: Marijuana - Age of First Use* High School Students Who Reported Smoking Marijuana During Their Lifetime



*Grade Adjusted

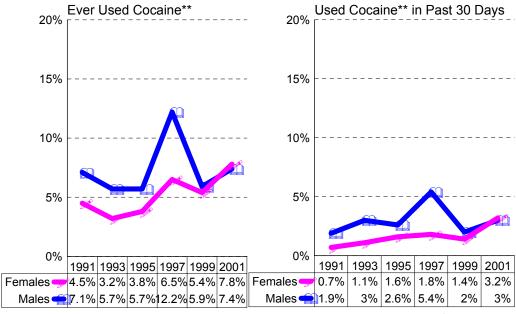
Figure 5,6 & 7 shows marijuana, cocaine and other drug use by gender. Except for "Ever Used Marijuana" there was no significant difference in drug use between male and female in 2001.

Figure 5: Marijuana Use*
High School Students



*Grade Adjusted

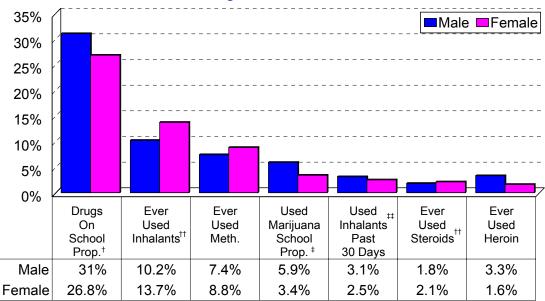
Figure 6: Cocaine Use*
High School Students



^{** &}quot;Any form of cocaine including powder, crack, or freebase"

*Grade Adjusted

Figure 7: Marijuana and Other Drugs* 2001 High School Students

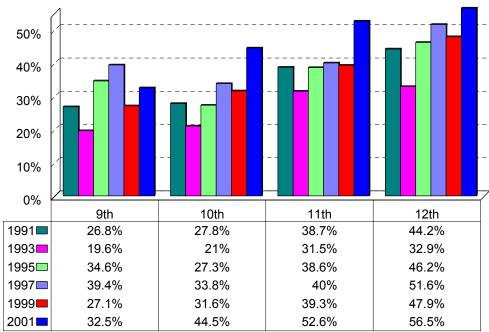


 $^{^\}dagger$ "offered, sold, or given drugs on school property in past 12 months" † "sniffed glue, breathed the contents of aerosol spray cans,

or inhaled paints or sprays"

As with many other risk behaviors, teens in older grades have generally been more likely than those in younger grades to report illegal drug use (Figs. 8 - 10).

Figure 8: Ever Used Marijuana by Grade
High School Students



 ^{* &}quot;used marijuana on school property in the past 30 days"
 * "steroid pills or shots without a doctor's prescription"
 *Grade Adjusted

Figure 9: Marijuana Use in Past 30 Days by Grade High School Students

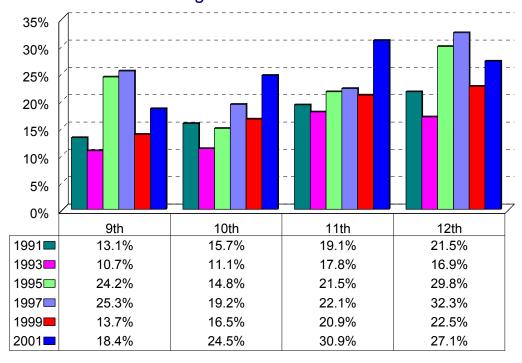
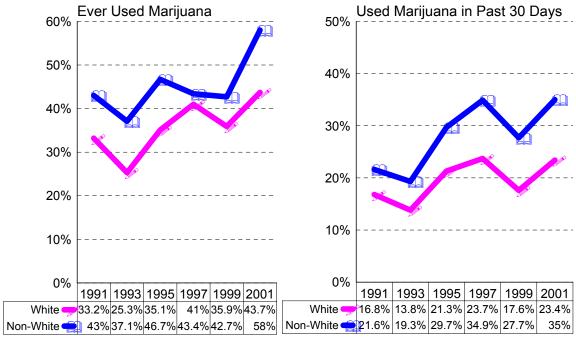


Figure 10: Ever Used Inhalants by Grade **High School Students** 25% 20% 15% 10% 5% 0% 9th 10th 11th 12th 1995 23.6% 12.2% 12.6% 14.8% 1997 20.9% 13.8% 16.8% 9.7% 1999 13.2% 10.2% 6.1% 13.7% 2001 13% 15.1% 14.3% 5.1%

In 2001, non-white teens were more likely than white teens to report illegal drug use (marijuana, cocaine, methamphetamine, steroid use and inhalant use). They were also more likely to use drugs on school property (Figs. 11 - 13).

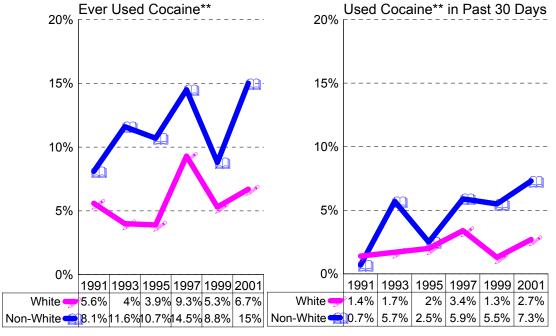
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Figure 11: Marijuana Use*
High School Students



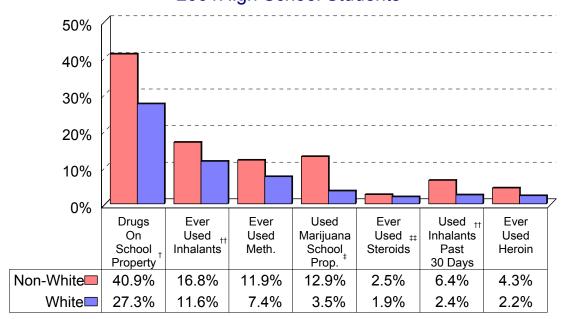
*Grade Adjusted

Figure 12: Cocaine Use*
High School Students



^{** &}quot;Any form of cocaine including powder, crack, or freebase"

Figure 13: Illegal Drug Use* 2001High School Students



 $^{^\}dagger$ "offered, sold, or given drugs on school property in past 12 months" †† "sniffed glue, breathed the contents of aerosol spray cans,

or inhaled paints or sprays"

 ^{* &}quot;used marijuana on school property in the past 30 days"
 * "steroid pills or shots without a doctor's prescription"
 *Grade Adjusted